

**Corsica River Watershed Project
Implementers Meeting
February 14, 2006 QAC Planning & Zoning**

I. Welcome and Introduction – John McCoy, DNR

John welcomed attendees to the meeting, and attendees introduced themselves. John then reviewed the monthly report. He mentioned the issue of anadromous fish since the grant funding is not currently secured. The funding was to staff spring monitoring, which is quickly approaching. Logistics make meeting the deadline challenging at best, but efforts will proceed to ensure implementation. The main constraint is to train volunteers in the face of current staffing and training obligations. John and Danielle will work with staff to monitor this issue.

II. Project Activities Updates

ü ***Water Festival, Elena Takaki (DNR):*** Elena, of DNR's Education Division, described the upcoming Water Festival on May 4 during *May Days*. The objective is to get the message out to the public on what they can do to minimize their environmental impact and maximize resource efficiency. The Water Festival is an educational and fun event that will involve the Kennard School, where schoolchildren will spend time at various education stations. Each station will address a different environmental issue and teach kids and parents on what they can do. Elena will keep the Group posted on the Festival's progress, and how we can help in publicity and activities. Please see Elena's presentation for more information

ü ***Grants & Budgets, John McCoy (DNR):*** John stated the budget was submitted to the legislature for this session. In addition, \$6 million were submitted for the federal budget, but the budget has yet to be heard by committee. Currently, we have CBT's \$100,000 in hand for the demonstration sites. The Group should hear about proposal submitted to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) later this spring. Additional grants proposals were submitted to NFWF for a living shorelines project and to the Corps of Engineers.
ACTION ITEM: John will resend the grants synopsis to the Group for clarification.

ü ***SAV Restoration Activities, Tom Parham (DNR):*** Tom reviewed the activities planned for this spring in the Corsica River. Staff will work to identify planting sites, develop more effective techniques, and begin planting. Please see Tom's presentation for more information.

III. Tidal Water Quality Monitoring – Bruce Michael, DNR

Bruce described the locations of water quality stations in the watershed, some of their results, and future plans. Please see Bruce's presentation for more information.

IV. General Discussion

- ü ***Mill Stream Valley topo – Mike Whitehill*** : Mike submitted to the Implementers group the topographic map of the Town property along Mill Stream. The Town expressed interest in a trail through the site. This is also great site for a wetland restoration site. Mike also provided topo maps for attendees to review. He and John will keep the Group apprised of its progress.
- ü ***Septic Systems – John Boris, MDE***: John informed the Group that legislation has been submitted that would alter the Flush Fee and remove septic owners from paying. The brochure and videos previously discussed are completed, which will be used to educate landowners and legislators alike.
ACTION ITEM: John will show the video at the next meeting.
- ü ***Wetland Restoration – Mitch Keiler, DNR***: Mitch quickly conveyed that DNR and Soil Conservation District staff identified and verified potential wetland restoration sites, which should be finalized shortly. He will keep the Group apprised of their progress and when actual construction will begin.